

second highest rate of reported AIDS cases in the nation. That number includes 25,000 people who reside in Brooklyn. The Ryan White Act has been, and continues to be, a lifeline for those New Yorkers and Americans living with HIV/AIDS.

As medical costs continue to rise, the reauthorization comes at a critical time. It provides for an important five percent increase across every category of funding. Additionally, several new provisions included in the bill focus on reducing the disparities in access to health care among racial and ethnic groups who are disproportionately affected by the virus.

By passing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 yesterday with an overwhelming majority we not only restored a sense of hope and dignity for those dealing with the everyday struggles of this disease, but we also demonstrated our nation's steadfast commitment to ensuring that 1.1 million people living with HIV/AIDS have access to quality care and treatment.

RECOGNIZING DR. CHARLES
ANTZELEVITCH

HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Charles Antzelevitch for his 25 years of service as executive director and director of research at the world renowned Masonic Medical Research Lab (MMRL) in Utica, New York.

Dr. Antzelevitch truly embodies the American dream. After immigrating to this country from Israel as a child, he worked as a cab driver in New York City and put himself through college before earning a doctorate at SUNY Upstate Medical. From there he went on to do his post doctoral work at MMRL, eventually becoming a Gordon K. Moe Scholar and Professor of Pharmacology at SUNY Health Science Center in Syracuse, New York. Dr. Antzelevitch has distinguished himself as an award-winning scientist, editorial board member of several leading medical journals and member of numerous national medical research committees.

Under the exceptional leadership of Dr. Antzelevitch, MMRL has excelled in its mission to improve the health and quality of life for all humankind through its discovery of genetic mutations responsible for Brugada syndrome, Long QT syndrome which is linked to sudden infant death syndrome, Short QT syndrome which is linked to sudden cardiac death syndrome, and many other cardiac-related syndromes and illnesses.

An internationally renowned authority in the field of biomedical research, Dr. Antzelevitch has received too many awards and honors to enumerate. His contributions to scientific literature include 310 original papers and book chapters, over 250 abstracts and four books. MMRL, often referred to as a "gem in the crown" of Utica, is widely recognized as one of the top research laboratories in the world working on cardiac arrhythmias.

Other initiatives of Dr. Antzelevitch and MMRL, which include free screenings and four educational programs, demonstrate an unparalleled commitment to our local community. MMRL hosts a summer fellowship program and welcomes undergraduate, predoctoral and postdoctoral students, as well as the wider scientific and medical community, to use the lab's extensive library for research and reference.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Antzelevitch for his distinguished 25-year career at MMRL and his ongoing service to our community. He is a father, mentor and friend to all who know him, and I wish him many more years of success and prosperity.

HONORING NAPA VALLEY HORSE-
MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF NAPA
COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Napa Valley Horsemen's Association on the occasion of their 70th anniversary. NVHA was organized by a dedicated group of horse lovers to promote horses as a form of recreation in the Napa Valley. On October 17th, 2009, the Association is celebrating this milestone at their clubhouse in Southwest Napa.

The Horsemen's Association has a long and storied history. NVHA held its first meeting on October 11, 1939, at the Napa Fairgrounds in the Home Economics Building. From there the club grew to 82 charter members by January 1940. On November 19, 1939, the club held its first event, consisting of races, roping, horsemanship classes and jumping.

NVHA purchased the 32 acres at its present location on Foster Road in Napa in 1948. The site was a working dairy, and upon purchase the club members refurbished the milking barn to operate as a clubhouse and spent the next few years holding fundraisers to build the arenas and horse barns.

NVHA has been involved in supporting local equestrian events throughout its history and continues to do so today. The club boasts members who participate in all disciplines of riding, along with many members who simply enjoy horses. In addition to offering numerous shows, cattle events and speed events, NVHA also hosts educational clinics aimed at improving training, feeding and the keeping of local horses. In recent years, NVHA has partnered with the Bureau of Land Management to host adoption events for mustangs and burros. The club boasts an active youth group and also gives out annual scholarships to four local high school students who are studying equestrian or agricultural topics.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor the Napa Valley Horsemen's Association's illustrious history and numerous contributions to equestrianism in the Napa Valley. The Association continues to improve and thrive today, and I commend past

and current board members for their commitment to this cause.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MINNIE HILL
MCCLLEASE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on October 25, 2009 friends and family will gather to honor Mrs. Minnie Hill McClease, a retired teacher who has had a tremendous impact on North Carolina's First Congressional District. On this special occasion, Mrs. McClease's loved ones will join her to pay special tribute to this extraordinary woman.

Born on December 17, 1908, Mrs. McClease will soon celebrate her 101st birthday. After graduating from State Normal High School in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, she earned a bachelors degree from Shaw University and later a masters degree from New York University.

Retiring on June 4, 1971 after 37 years, Mrs. McClease served as a mathematics teacher at Elizabeth City's P. W. Moore High School and at Northeastern High School. To this day, the Cooper/McClease Scholarship is presented in her honor annually at Northeastern High School to a student who excels in mathematics.

During her career, Mrs. McClease earned the respect of her students, fellow teachers and the entire community. She fully dedicated herself to teaching because she cared so very deeply about the education of children. And, as we all know, good teachers like Mrs. McClease make a remarkable difference in the lives of their students.

During her extraordinary teaching career, Mrs. McClease inspired countless students. She made an undeniable impression on every student, and many of them went on to do great things. Among her students were Superior Court Judge J.C. Cole, cardiologist Dr. Lindsey White, retired principal and Pasquotank County Commissioner Cecil Perry, Virginia Beach Health Director Dr. Venita Newby-Owens, retired U.S. Army General Hawthorn Proctor, cardiologist Dr. Kermit Brown, retired educator Eddie Davis and Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Public Schools Superintendent Linwood Williams. These accomplished people represent just a few of the many great students Mrs. McClease helped inspire to reach their full potential.

Mrs. McClease has also been a highly active member of Olive Branch Missionary Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. McClease. She is truly a remarkable person deserving of our deepest gratitude for the enormous contributions that she made in the lives of children in eastern North Carolina and to the entire community.